

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6289

BILL NUMBER: SB 100

DATE PREPARED: Jan 25, 2002

BILL AMENDED: Jan 24, 2002

SUBJECT: Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home Superintendent.

FISCAL ANALYST: Michael Molnar

PHONE NUMBER: 232-9559

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill eliminates the requirement that the superintendent of the home be an honorably discharged veteran. The bill establishes a preference for the appointment of an honorably discharged veteran when at least two candidates otherwise meet the requirements for appointment. The bill eliminates the Admissions Committee for the home and allows the superintendent to decide whether to admit a child to the home with the approval of the State Health Commissioner.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) This bill may expand the number of eligible candidates for the Department of Health's consideration when recruiting for the superintendent position.

Currently, the Admissions Committee makes recommendations for placement based upon a comprehensive review of eligible children. The Committee is currently comprised of: the Superintendent of the home or designee, the State Health Commissioner or designee, the Superintendent of the Department of Education or designee, and the Secretary of Family and Social Services or designee.

Elimination of this review committee may limit the number or fit of placements made. This committee was established so that the respective agencies could refer children for placement at the Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home (ISSCH). This bill allows the Superintendent to accept children for residence with the approval of the State Health Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. In addition, the old statute required that if space permitted, these children shall be admitted. The new bill changes this provision to "may" be accepted.

Background: The ISSCH can serve 196 resident children with the present staff, building occupancy, programs, and budget. The ISSCH currently averages 93 vacancies for which it is budgeted.

The appropriations for FY 2001 were \$10.4 M with an additional \$2.5 M capital appropriation for the biennium. The table below presents FY 2002 and FY 2003 appropriations. The budgeted per capita expenditures for services provided to children were \$101,101 in FY 2001 (based upon average population). This can be further broken out to a per capita daily budgeted expenditure of \$285.

Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home Appropriations

Fund Source	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
General Fund	\$10,248,879	\$10,007,202	\$10,007,202
Dedicated	\$168,210	\$171,176	\$171,176
Total	\$10,417,089	\$10,178,378	\$10,178,378

The vacant positions could be utilized by children served by other agencies that need the services offered at the ISSCH. The Family and Social Services Agency (FSSA) currently has an estimated 100 children in need of such services. FSSA has recommended and placed 9 children at the ISSCH since July 1, 2000. Some of the children needing placement are currently in foster care at a cost of \$25 to \$100 per day, while others are in low-restriction residential facilities at a cost of approximately \$100 a day.

The Department of Education has not placed any children at ISSCH. However, the Department places students in other residential settings at a cost of \$200-\$300 per day. Some of these students are institutional Medicaid eligible, in which case the state expense varies.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Department of Health, Family and Social Services Administration, Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Amy Brown, Legislative Liaison for Family and Social Services Agency, 232-4451; Marilyn Cage, Legislative Liaison for the Indiana State Department of Health, 233-2170; Carol Eby, Assistant Director, Department of Education, (317) 232-0570; Renee Miller, Budget Agency, 232-2971.